

8-30-55 1300
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service

and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and

Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 8-30-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 8-29-55

WEATHER The week was hot and dry with hot winds and very low humidity on several days. There were a few light local showers near the end of the week over most of the state, but they were generally too light to be of any benefit. Temperatures Thursday through Saturday closely approached previous high records for so late in the season over the central and eastern portions of the state.

CROPS The condition of corn has dropped for the sixth consecutive week. Most of it has fared beyond recovery. High temperatures and hot winds of the past week were very severe. Reports on corn in the panhandle where precipitation so far this year has been normal, are still quite favorable although some of the irrigated corn is late. Northeastern Nebraska which was in a more favorable condition up to two weeks ago, suffered badly from heat and drought last week.

Much of the corn is being put into silos although there is considerable comment on the poor quality. In some spots corn has enough grain to make good silage. Considerable of the corn is being pastured. Except for the panhandle, some bottom land fields, and spots that were favored with more rainfall, the damage to dry land corn is general throughout the state.

A little wheat was sown in extreme western Nebraska last week. Soil moisture conditions are generally favorable for fall seeding of wheat in the panhandle and in parts of southwestern Nebraska. Elsewhere soil moisture conditions are very unfavorable on land intended for wheat. A little alfalfa and some grasses have been seeded in spots that have received some moisture, but generally it is too dry for any fall seeding.

Grain sorghums show further deterioration. Part of the crop could still recover with adequate moisture. The condition of sorghum is more favorable in the panhandle and parts of southwestern Nebraska that received local showers. There was more damage to soybeans from drought and high temperatures last week.

The condition of the third crop of alfalfa is generally very unfavorable. It appears that considerable of the acreage is being left for seed and some of the reports on seed prospects have been quite favorable.

Except for the panhandle and most of the sand hills, pasture is extremely short. This is the general condition throughout southern and eastern Nebraska. Pastures got an extremely late start last spring and while they made good growth during June, the heat and drought from July to date prevented growth so there is very little pasture feed left. Farmers have been feeding hay, pasturing corn, and in some cases alfalfa fields.

Reports on late potatoes, sugar beets, and beans are generally fair to good although there are some reports of insufficient water for irrigation. Some of the beans are late and may not mature before frost.

Although July 1 farm stocks of corn totaled 77,000,000 bushels, nearly 5,000,000 bushels above the average, increasing numbers of counties are reporting a short supply of corn. The number of counties reporting a short supply of hay is increasing. Pasture is short over 83% of the state, the balance still reporting ample.

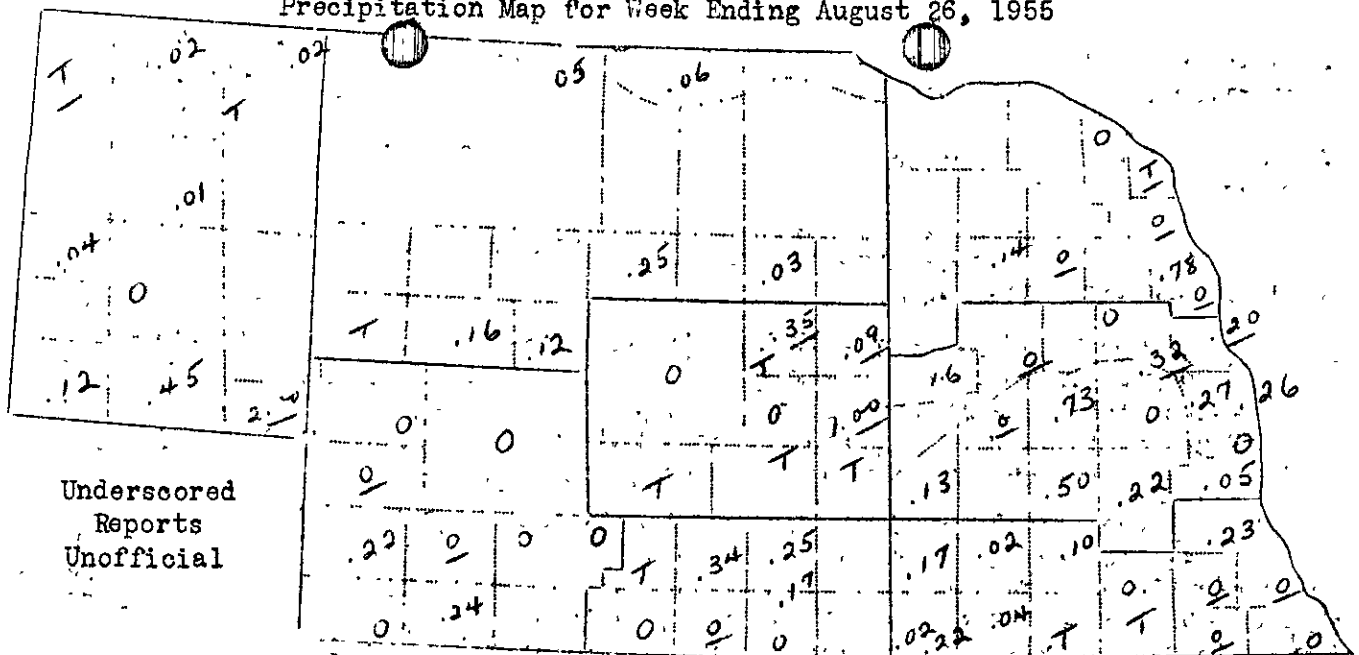
Except for a few spots, there has been little or no rainfall during the past two weeks. Nearly all counties report surface moisture is short and subsoil moisture is generally short throughout the state except in the panhandle.

LIVESTOCK Sales of livestock at the local sale barns are large. In one case, numbers were so large that farmers were notified by radio to bring in no more livestock. Lack of pasture and short first and third crops of alfalfa, as well as short forage crops, are presenting a serious situation for livestock producers. Supplies of sealed corn are ample, but the price is a little too high to encourage feeding. The nation's hog numbers are at a very high level, and there was an increase in the spring pig crop as well as the last fall pig crop.

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The following note on conditions in south central Nebraska is quite typical. "The past week of hot, windy days, with daily temperatures above 100° has reduced corn prospects to a complete failure for dry land corn. Cattle have been turned into a number of corn fields. Probably 30 to 40% of milo would still head if adequate moisture were received within the next few days. To date, very little milo has headed. No prospects for another cutting of alfalfa. All pastures are dry and brown and most pastures will provide very little feed from now through the fall. The continued deterioration of crops has changed grain, forage and pasture conditions from ample to short. Many livestock farmers are short on grain, pasture and forage now and a shortage will develop for many others before spring. It is apparent that some farmers who do not have adequate capital or credit will be forced out of the farming business. Drought can be, and is, as serious a disaster as floods and other catastrophes."

Precipitation Map for Week Ending August 26, 1955



Underscored
Reports
Unofficial

HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		August		23rd		24th		25th		26th		27th		28th		29th	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	100	53	100	53	98	69	97	63	99	64	87	70	86	55		
	Scottsbluff	95	59	97	58	95	63	92	63	92	66	89	61	84	58		
	Sidney	92	61	96	54	97	59	95	62	96	64	89	59	80	56		
N-C	Burwell	93	66	96	67	104	67	103	77	106	69	102	64	99	61		
	Valentine	95	67	102	56	97	75	104	68	104	69	82	68	82	57		
NE	Norfolk	90	67	94	74	99	74	103	82	105	81	102	66	98	66		
	Sioux City	90	70	93	73	102	73	102	76	104	76	104	68	99	67		
Cen.	Grand Island	91	65	96	73	101	75	103	80	105	78	102	73	98	66		
E-C	Lincoln	90	68	95	75	100	78	102	81	104	78	102	74	97	74		
	Omaha	88	63	93	71	99	74	99	77	103	77	102	69	96	67		
SW	Imperial	94	66	97	58	103	71	103	69	101	71	99	65	90	58		
	North Platte	92	64	95	63	102	73	103	65	102	67	100	68	93	60		

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29, 1955

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	0	Burwell	.18	Chadron	1.22
Lincoln	.01	North Platte	0	Imperial	0
Norfolk	.45	Valentine	.16	Scottsbluff	.14
Omaha	.09			Sidney	.46
Sioux City	0				

Precipitation, April 1-August 26, 1955

	Eastern Div.	Central Div.	Western Div.
Total past week	.17	.06	.05
Total since April 1	11.53	9.90	11.55
Normal since April 1	17.49	15.07	12.10

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